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# Kaurna Place Names Web Site

Submitted by Australia**

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## SUMMARY

This report details the development of the Kaurna Place Names web site.

The site has been developed as an initiatitive of the agreement between the Kaurna people of the Adelaide region of South Australia and four local government authorities in the southern portion of metropolitain Adelaide and the adjacent rural areas.

The report outlines the reason and scope of the web site and explains the development process, the end result and the expectations of the web site.

# Kaurna Place Names Web Site

## INTRODUCTION

The Kaurna People are the Aboriginal language group who occupied the land in the vicinity of the City of Adelaide, the capital city of the South Australia prior to colonization.

As such, they were one of the first Aboriginal groups who interacted with the European settlers in 1836, and prior to that, with the sealers and whalers who had temporary occupation of various coastal sites.

In spite of the cultural erosion that took place in the subsequent years, the Kaurna people still feel a very strong connection with the land and a desire to have their heritage recognized and protected.

## BACKGROUND

In 2005 four local government authorities in the southern portion of the Adelaide metropolitan area and adjacent rural area signed an agreement with the Kaurna people, known as the Kaurna Tappa Iri Regional Agreement.

The aim of this agreement is to increase the capacity and opportunity for Aboriginal people to influence and determine issues that are critical for their well-being. It has a strong emphasis on practical outcomes, such as the establishment of a business centre, protection of significant places, improving influence and holding of culturally important land and establishing guidelines for developers.

There are 7 objectives of the agreement. Objectives 3 and 4 of the agreement are as follows:

3. Promoting Kaurna identity, culture and values.

4. Protecting significant places, sites and objects.

Flowing from the these two objectives, a decision was made to develop a web site to show:

- Traditional Kaurna place names for various topographical features and sites.
- The use of traditional Kaurna place names for cultural features established after European settlement.
- The use of words taken from the Kaurna vocabulary and used as place names.

## DEVELOPMENT

In order to develop this proposal, a partnership was established comprising the following bodies:

| | |
|---|---|
| City of Onkaparinga | Representing the local government authorities and providing project oversight and financial management of the funds provided by the Kaurna Tappa Iri Agreement. |
| Kaurna Warra Pintyandi | A Kaurna language program being run in conjunction with the Adelaide University, providing the contacts with the Kaurna community, the source of the language and the means by which approval for the use of the place names is obtained. |
| Geographical Names Unit, Land Services Group, DTEI | Providing access to current gazetteer data, historical mapping and information, and technical assitance in the mapping of the place names. This unit will also provide an ongoing mainteneance of the place names data used for the web site. |

A private company, Beanstalk Creative Productions was contracted to develop the web site.

Given that this project was relating to the Kaurna Tappa Iri Agreement, it was decided that the initial development would focus mainly on those names within the local government areas associated with the agreement. A certain number of key feature names outside of the agreement area would also be added for general reference.

Each name under consideration to be shown on the site is required to be assessed against a number of selection criteria, including the following:

- Is the name from the Kaurna language, or was it imported from other languages into this area?
- Is it culturally appropriate to show this name on the web site?
- Is the spelling accurate and in harmony with the orthography being used in the Kaurna language program?
- What else is known about the name? (e.g. meaning, location etymology etc)

The initial investigation revealed approximately 350 names relating to the types of places defined in Background Section above. As this was seen as being to long a task to verify all these names, a shorter list of 63 key place names was created for a first release of the web site, with other names being added latter as they are processed.

Google Maps was utilized as the background data for the web site. This proved to be a very low cost solution to a reasonable quality imagery and general mapping base.

**END RESULT**

The end result has been a web site of Kaurna place names, showing the following information:

| Field Name | Description |
|---|---|
| Kaurna Name | The name as represented by the Kaurna orthography. |
| Common Name | The common name in use today – this could be a name from another source or the currently used alternative spelling of the Kaurna name. |
| Refers To | A list of all the uses that a particular name is applied to – e.g. suburb, school, post office etc. |
| Alternative Spelling | Alternative spelling of the Kaurna name as recorded by various parties. |
| Other Kaurna Name | If any other name exists of the feature. |
| Voice | A sound file for the pronunciation. |
| Picture | A picture of the feature if appropriate. |
| Pronunciation Tips | Advice as to how best to pronouce the name correctly. |
| Pronunciation Analysis | Lingusitic analysis of the pronunciation. |
| Etymology | An account of the meaning and history of the elements of the name. |
| Meaning | Meaning of the name. |
| Location Text | Description of the location of the feature if required. |
| Language Notes | Relevant information relating to language as applied to the particular name. |
| Cultural Notes | Notes relating the cultural releveance and importance of the place and or the name. |
| Source | Source documentation supporting the use of the name. |
| Status | Indicates if the name is of long standing use (either on maps or verbal tradition), is recently reinstated, a new name or a proposed name. |
| Feature Type | Indication of the type of feature. |
| Managment Notes | Information relating to the managment of a particulay naming proposal. |
| Additional Notes | Any other relevant details. |
| Date Proposal Initiated | The date a naming proposal commenced. |
| Geographical Names Approval Date | Date the name was approved pursant to the Geographical names Act if relevant. |
| Council approval date | Date the name was approved by the local government authority if relevant. |
| KWP Approval Date | Date the name was approved through the Kaurna Wirra Pintyandi processes. |
| Alternate GIS | Alternative location is seen as appropriate – this would then be used on the display instead of the latitude and longitude shown below. |
| Map Type | Indicates if the feature will use the point or area symbol. |
| Suburb | Name of the suburb or locality in which the feature is |

| Field Name | Description |
|---|---|
| | located. |
| Latitude | For location purposes |
| Longitude | For location purposes |

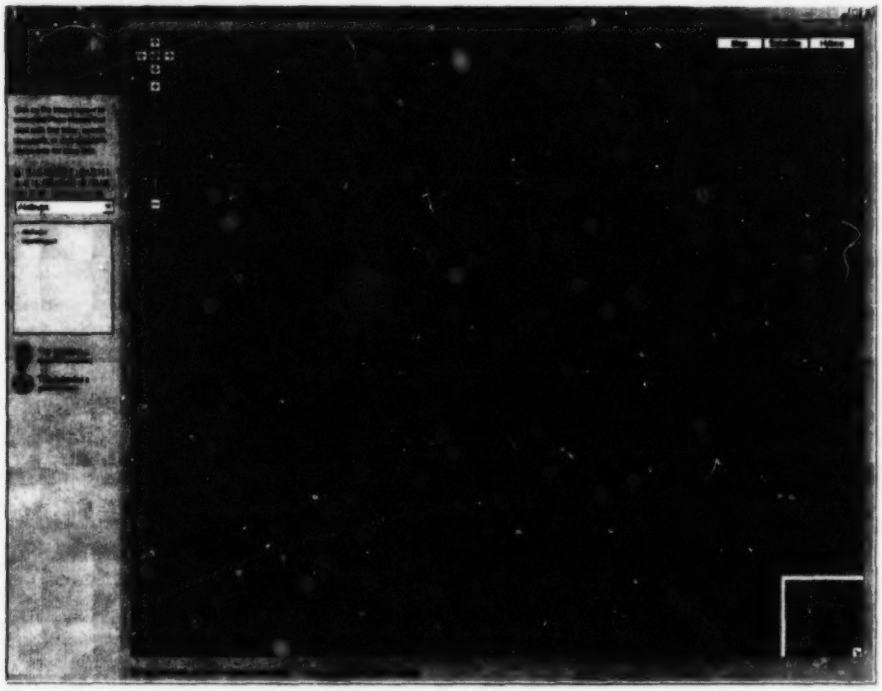
Not all field of information are availble to all users. Many of the field of information have the ability to be restricted to certain access levels only. There are three levels of access to the web site:

1. General access
2. Managment access – for those who need to see all the data recorded.
3. Administration access – limited to select individulas who can then eddit or add to the data.

Those who access data from the web site can select by either the Kaurna name or the common name, or can select a suburb or locality and obtain information on all the names within that geographic area.

Selecting one of the symbols with a mouse click will result in a 'balloon' appearing, showing of some of the available information, which can in turn, by selecting a 'Click here for more info' line, introduce a pop up window showing all allowable data based on the access rights of the user.

**Figure 1 - Initial Screen**



**PUBLIC RELEASE**

The web site will be officially launched in late July 2007, using the web address of www.kaurnaplacenames.com.

Public input relating to the data will be welcomed, and a data input form is provided for this purpose.

**EXPECTATIONS**

The following outcomes are expected from this web site.

- It will be used as a resource for schools and community groups in relation to local Kaurna heritage.
- It will provide a recognition in relation to the importance of Kaurna heritage to the areas in which many South Australians live.
- The number of names shown on the web site will increase quickly over the coming months and then will slow down as only the new names will be added.
- The concept of this type of development will be used by other language groups in South Australia, and hopefully in other locations also.